

Applicant : Ernest K. Kenneway
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REMARKS

Applicant has cancelled claims 3 and 15 and amended claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 9, 13, 17, 23 and 26. Claims 1-2, 4-14 and 16-29 remain present in this application. Applicant has also included herewith authorization to charge deposit account number 16-2463 for two additional independent claims, i.e., claims 5 and 17. In the present Office Action, claims 6, 9, 10, 12, 23, 26, 27 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for containing the limitation of a "second" plurality of objects; claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,405,015 (hereinafter Bhatia), U.S. Patent No. 5,626,236 (hereinafter Hiebert) and U.S. Patent No. 4,707,251 (hereinafter Jenkins); claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 11, 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jenkins; claims 3, 5, 8, 15 and 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims; and claims 18-22, 24, 25 and 28 were allowed. Applicant wishes to express appreciation to the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Applicant has amended claims 6, 9, 23, and 26 to address the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection of claims 6, 9, 10, 12, 23, 26, 27 and 29 and, as such, submits that this rejection is now moot. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the subject matter of claim 3, which was objected to, and cancelled claim 3 and, as such, submits that claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, and 11 are now allowable. Applicant has rewritten claim 5, which was objected to, in independent form and, as such, submits that claim 5 is now allowable. Applicant has amended claim 13 to include the subject matter of claim 15, which was objected to, and cancelled claim 15 and, as such, submits that claims 13, 14 and 16 are now allowable. Applicant has rewritten claim 17, which was objected to, in independent form and, as such, submits that claim 17 is now allowable.

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CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that claims 1-2, 4-14 and 16-29 are now allowable. If the Examiner has any questions or comments with respect to this reply, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 949-9610.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: PRICE, HENEVELD, COOPER,
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05-11-04
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